

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA**

**CLERK'S OFFICE**

**REVISED NOTICE OF FILING AND HEARING AND PREFILE TESTIMONY DEADLINES**

**(Notice for Newspaper)**

**DOCKET NO. 2017-292-WS**

**APPLICATION OF CAROLINA WATER SERVICE, INC. FOR ADJUSTMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES AND MODIFICATIONS TO CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF WATER AND SEWER SERVICE**

On November 10, 2017, Carolina Water Service, Inc. ("CWS" or "Company" or "Applicant") filed an Application with the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("Commission") for an adjustment of the Company's rates and charges and modification of certain terms and conditions for the provision of water and sewer service. CWS is a public utility, as defined by S. C. Code Ann. § 58-5-10(4), providing water and sewer service to the public for compensation in certain areas of South Carolina.

According to the Application, the proposed rates and charges represent a total increase in revenues of approximately \$4,596,650 or 23.65%, comprised of an increase in water revenues of approximately \$2,312,034 or 21.97%, and an increase in sewer revenues of approximately \$2,284,616 or 25.64%. In support of its request for an adjustment in water and sewer rates and terms and conditions, CWS asserts, among other things, that the proposed water and sewer rate increases are necessary in order that it may provide reasonable and adequate service to its customers, comply with standards and regulations set by the Department of Health and Environmental Control and other governmental agencies which regulate the environmental aspect of the Company's business, cover its expenses, earn a reasonable return on its investment, and attract capital for future improvements. The Company also asserts that the proposed water and sewer rate increases are necessary to preserve its financial integrity and to promote continued investment in and maintenance of its facilities so as to provide reliable and high quality services.

**THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE RATES AND CHARGES ARE available from the Company by contacting Charles L. A. Terreni, Terreni Law Firm, LLC and Scott Elliott, Elliott & Elliott, P.A., 1508 Lady Street, Columbia, SC 29201 or by visiting the Commission's website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov) under Docket No. 2017-292-WS. A notice containing a schedule of a significant portion of the proposed rates and charges is also being delivered to the Company's customers and that notice is also available on the Commission's website.**

The Application was filed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §58-5-240 and S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-712.4.A and 103-512.4.A. The Application seeks recovery of the balance in the regulatory deferral account associated with increases in purchased water from bulk water providers, as authorized in Order No. 2015-876 in Docket No. 2015-199-WS. The Application states that by notice dated October 9, 2017, the Town of Lexington (Town) notified CWS of the Town's intention to condemn CWS's I-20 waste-water service territory which serves approximately 2,300 customers. CWS states in its Application that it anticipates and, therefore, reflects the removal of the I-20 waste-water system. The Application seeks to amend its Cross-Connections inspections to require residential customers to test their back-flow devices every two (2) years and to authorize CWS to terminate service to any customer, after notice, who fails to demonstrate that its back-flow device is operating properly. The Application seeks authority to create a Utility System Improvement Rate (USIR) (see page 6 of the Application).

A copy of the Company's application can be found on the Commission's website [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov) under Docket No. 2017-292-WS. Additionally, a copy of the application is available from the office of Charles L. A. Terreni, Terreni Law Firm, LLC and Scott Elliott, Elliott & Elliott, P.A., 1508 Lady Street, Columbia, SC 29201.

Any person who wishes to participate in this matter as a party of record should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before **January 9, 2018**, by filing the Petition to Intervene with the Commission, by providing a copy to the Office of Regulatory Staff and by providing a copy to all parties of record. For the receipt of future Commission correspondence, please include an email address in the Petition to Intervene. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2017-292-WS and mail a copy to all other parties in this docket.*** Any person who seeks to intervene and who wishes to testify and present evidence at the hearing should notify, in writing, the Commission; the Office of Regulatory Staff at 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, South Carolina 29201; and the Company through its attorneys Charles L. A. Terreni, Terreni Law Firm, LLC and Scott Elliott, Elliott & Elliott, P.A., 1508 Lady Street, Columbia, SC 29201, on or before **January 9, 2018**. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2017-292-WS.***

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that a hearing, pursuant to 10 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-817 and S.C. Code Ann. § 58-5-240, on the above matter has been scheduled to begin on **Tuesday, April 03, 2018, at 10:30 a.m.**, before the Commission in the Commission's Hearing Room at 101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100, Saluda Building, Columbia, South Carolina 29210 for the purpose of receiving testimony and evidence from all interested parties. The hearing may continue through April 4, 2018, if necessary.

**INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PARTIES OF RECORD (Applicant, Petitioners, and Intervenor only):** All Parties of Record must pre-file testimony with the Commission and with all Parties of Record. Prefiled Testimony Deadlines: Applicant's **Direct Testimony** Due: **2/26/2018**; Other Parties of Record **Direct Testimony** Due: **3/12/2018**; Applicant's **Rebuttal Testimony** Due: **3/19/2018**; and Other Parties of Record **Surrebuttal Testimony** Due: **3/26/2018**. All prefiled testimony deadlines are subject to the information as posted on [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov) under ***Docket No. 2017-292-WS.***

Any person who wishes to request that the Commission hold a public hearing in his or her county of residence in order to hear comments from the utility's customers, should notify, in writing, the Commission; the Office of Regulatory Staff at 1401 Main Street, Suite 900, Columbia, South Carolina 29201; and the company at the above address, on or before **January 16, 2018**. ***Please refer to Docket No. 2017-292-WS.***

For the most recent information regarding this docket, including changes in scheduled dates included in this Notice, please refer to [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov) and ***Docket No. 2017-292-WS.***

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that any person who wishes to have his or her comments considered as part of the official record of this proceeding **MUST** present such comments in person to the Commission during the hearing.

Persons seeking information about the Commission's procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5100 or visit its website at [www.psc.sc.gov](http://www.psc.sc.gov).